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DOS Review Completed.

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS
APPLY

ADAMS/BREMER FOR THE SECRETARY

OCTOBER 12, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: INFORMATION ITEMS
BRITISH ELECTION RESULTS:

THE LABOR PARTY, PROMISING BRITAIN A SHARP DOSE OF SOCIALISM TO CURE ITS RAGING ECONOMIC CRISIS, TOOK A LEAD EARLY FRIDAY IN GENERAL ELECTION RETURNS. PRIME MINISTER HAROLD WILSON SAID LABOR CANNOT LOSE, BUT CONSERVATIVE LEADER EDWARD HEATH REFUSED TO CONCEDE DEFEAT. "I EXPECT TO FORM MY FOURTH ADMINISTRATION TOMORROW (FRIDAY) WILSON SAID AT 10PM EDT. " WHATEVER HAPPENS NOW, THE TORIES CANNOT TAKE IT AWAY FROM US." WITH MORE THAN THREE-FOURTHS OF THE VOTE IN, THE BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION AND INDEPENDENT TELEVISION NEWS COMPUTERS PREDICTED AN OVERALL LABOR MAJORITY OF THREE TO SEVEN SEATS. THERE ARE 635 SEATS IN PARLIAMENT. AT 3A.M. LABOR HAD WON 283 SEATS, THE CONSERVATIVES 175, LIBERALS 5, AND OTHER PARTIES A TOTAL OF 7. LABOR NEEDS TO WIN AT LEAST 318 SEATS TO CONTROL PARLIAMENT.

CASTRO MAY BE PLANNING TO VISIT PANAMA:

CUBAN PRIME MINISTER CASTRO IS EXPECTED TO VISIT PANAMA ON NOVEMBER 3 TO PARTICIPATE IN PANAMA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS. PANAMA AND CUBA ESTABLISHED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS IN AUGUST BUT DO NOT YET HAVE RESIDENT AMBASSADORS. (LOW)

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HANOI DEMANDS THIEU'S OUSTER: AN OCTOBER 8 "PRG" STATEMENT DEMANDED THAT THE THIEU GOVERNMENT BE OUSTED AND REPLACED BY AN ADMINISTRATION THAT "IS WILLING TO IMPLEMENT THE PARIS AGREEMENT...IN A SERIOUS WAY;" MOREOVER, THE "PRG" WILL NEGOTIATE "ONLY" WITH SUCH A SUCCESSOR GOVERNMENT ON IMPLEMENTING THE AGREEMENT.

THE STATEMENT'S APPEAL TO THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE TO OVERTHROW THIEU CLEARLY INDICATES THAT HANOI IS PRESENTLY SEEKING TO CAPITALIZE ON CURRENT (ALBEIT LIMITED) MANIFESTATIONS OF ANTI-GOVERNMENT SENTIMENT IN SOUTH VIETNAM. EMBASSY SAIGON REPORTS THAT THIS IS THE COMMUNISTS' MOST DRAMATIC EFFORT SO FAR TO CAPITALIZE ON THE CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION IN THE SOUTH AND IS THE FIRST TIME (SINCE THE CEASE-FIRE) THEY HAVE UNEQUIVOCALLY DEMANDED THIEU'S OUSTER. FBIS SPECULATES THAT THIS PARTICULARLY TOUGH STATEMENT MAY ALSO BE DESIGNED TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON HANOI'S COMPLAINTS PRIOR TO YOUR MOSCOW TRIP.

IN GENERAL. THE STATEMENT FURTHER ILLUSTRATES A PRIME OBJECTIVE OF HANOI No Objection to Declassification in Part 2010/10/22 : LOC-HAK-550-2-1-7 AGREEMENT ON COMMUNIST TERMS. (STEARMAN)

INDIAN CABINET RESHUFFLE: MRS. GANDHI RESHUFFLED HER CABINET IN A MOVE WHICH BEARS MORE ADMINISTRATIVE THAN POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE, WITH THE MAJOR EMPHASIS ON CONTINUITY. THE MAIN POINT IS THAT HER CLOSEST AND MOST POWERFUL ADVISORS STILL HOLD THE KEY PORTFOLIOS. SWARAN SINGH, WHOM YOU RECEIVED AS FOREIGN MINISTER LAST MONTH, HAS BEEN MADE DEFENSE MINISTER, A POST WHICH HE HAS HELD IN THE PAST. FORMER FINANCE MINISTER CHAVAN HAS REPLACED SINGH AS FOREIGN MINISTER; HE IS WELL DISPOSED TOWARD THE U.S. AND IS EXPECTED TO CONTINUE SINGH'S EFFORTS TOWARD IMPROVING U.S.-INDIAN RELATIONS. MRS. GANDHI HAS MOVED TWO OF HER OTHER KEY AIDES (FORMER DEFENSE MINISTER RAM AND SCIENCE MINISTER SUBRAMANIAM) BOTH PROVEN ADMINISTRATORS, INTO AGRICULTURE AND FINANCE SLOTS. THIS MAY REFLECT HER INTEREST IN STRENGTHENING THESE MINISTRIES AT A TIME WHEN INDIA'S ECONOMIC SITUATION HAS BEEN COMPOUNDED BY CRITICAL FOOD SHORTAGES. SINGH, CHAVAN, AND RAM HAVE BEEN MEMBERS OF MRS. GANDHI'S "INNER CABINET" FOR MORE THAN A DECADE.

POST-KIDNAPING SITUATION IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: DOMINICAN PRESIDENT BALAGUER HAS WON A PSYCHOLOGICAL VICTORY BY ACHIEVING THE SAFE RELEASE OF THE SEVEN HOSTAGES HELD SINCE SEPTEMBER 27 WITHOUT GIVING IN TO THE TERRORISTS' INITIAL DEMANDS FOR THE RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS AND THE PAYMENT OF A CASH RANSOM. SIGNIFICANTLY, DURING THE EPISODE A BROAD SPECTRUM OF LEFTIST GROUPS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC WENT ON RECORD AS OPPOSING THE KIDNAPING AND THE USE OF VIOLENCE AS A POLITICAL TOOL. THIS CONDEMNATION COULD DISCOURAGE OTHERS FROM TRYING SIMILAR ACTIONS AGAINST THE BALAGUER GOVERNMENT. SHOULD THE SECURITY FORCES NOW INITIATE A CRACKDOWN ON LEFTIST OPPONENTS, HOWEVER, BALAGUER COULD LOSE HIS PRESENT ADVANTAGE BY GIVING EXTREMISTS AN EXCUSE TO CLAIM SUCH ACTION JUSTIFIED THE USE OF VIOLENCE ON THEIR PART.

KUDIRKA CONTACTED BY SOVIET GOVERNMENT ON EXIT: SIMAS KUDIRKA HAS BEEN CONTACTED BY SOVIET OFFICIALS AND INSTRUCTED TO APPLY FOR EXIT VISAS FOR HIMSELF AND HIS WIFE ON MONDAY. THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE ASSUMES THAT THE INSTRUCTION INCLUDES THE KUDIRKA CHILDREN. (KUDIRKA IS THE LITHUANIAN SEAMAN WHO TRIED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO DEFECT TO THE U.S. IN 1970 AND WAS IMPRISONED IN THE SOVIET UNION UNTIL A SHORT TIME AGO.)

ARGENTINE LABOR LEADER KILLED: AS POLITICAL MURDERS CONTINUE IN ARGENTINA, THE LEADER OF THE PORT WORKERS UNION WAS SHOT AND KILLED THURSDAY BY ATTACKERS WHO BROKE INTO THE UNION HOUSE. THE PORT WORKERS UNION WILL HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY TO EXPLAIN MEASURES THEY WILL ADOPT IN RESPONSE TO THE KILLING.

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